

Inter Canyon League
Minutes of the General Meeting
Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:00 PM Live Streaming

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by President Sarkissian.

II. General Announcements & Discussion

a. General Community Announcements

Mary Schreiber reported that a mountain lion was relocated out of Williams Canyon. Also, Fire Safe Council chipper days are scheduled for the first two Saturdays in June. Besides vegetation cleared from around houses, straw bales will also be accepted. Rich Pfeiffer said that the bales were more of a hazard than a help during the mudslides. Mary said that they need to be securely staked to the ground when deployed.

b. Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary Update

Bo Glover, Executive Director of the Environmental Nature Center (ENC), presented a brief overview of ENC and its plan to take over as Tucker operator following California State University, Fullerton's (CSUF) decision to relinquish that role.

The ENC began in 1972 on an "unused gully" at Newport Harbor High School in Newport Beach, where the science department envisioned a nature center. When Glover began pulling weeds there in 1991, it was 90 percent school-funded. Although the ENC survived public embezzlement and bankruptcy threats, one of Glover's goals when he became Executive Director was to diversify funding through memberships, for example. Just prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, its annual budget had grown to two million dollars. When CSUF left Tucker, control reverted to San Fernando Valley Audobon (SFVA), which accepted ENC's proposal to take over. Glover said that he signed the agreement just two hours before tonight's meeting. ENC should now have 30 days to make a detailed inspection of the site and begin planning budgets, staffing, volunteer opportunities, etc.

c. Canyon Watch Update—Bic & Keith Edwards

About ten percent of the GMRS radios still need to be reprogrammed to use the new "Silverado" repeater in place of "Franklin" in Silverado. Backup power is expected to be in place in a couple of days. Rattlesnake tip: GMRS radios will work in some places where cell phones won't, like Black Star Canyon and the Maple Springs area.

d. Emergency Preparedness---Joanne Hubble

Joanne forwarded email from COAD announcing workshops for fire victims about rebuilding. Joanne also continued pursuing AT&T as a possible alternative to Verizon for cell service in the canyons. Although backup power for cell sites in an emergency is not required, she said that AT&T would provide that. Perhaps that would encourage Verizon to do the same. Lack of phone service was a major problem during the recent wildfires.

e. Bond Fire Grant Wrap up—Geoffrey Sarkissian

ICL awarded fire relief grants to 20 of the people who submitted an application. The amounts ranged from \$2,725 to \$7,550, depending on need, and as announced earlier, names and amounts will be publicly available on the ICL website.

Geoff also noted that for people with California FAIR Plan insurance, those policies cover fire loss only. A “wraparound” policy would also be needed to provide additional insurance typically included in a regular homeowner insurance policy.

f. Friends of the Library—Fran Williams

The Library of the Canyons is now open for browsing. The summer reading program will run from June 12 to July 31. The rug has been cleaned in anticipation of inside gatherings.

The annual swap meet to benefit the library will be June 12 and 13 at the Silverado Community Center, conveniently across the street from Chipper Days. Fran is “desperately seeking volunteers,” including for Friday, June 11. Feel free to call her.

g. Country Fair—Jane Bove

Jane said that this year’s fair will be more low-key, daytime only, and compliant with COVID-19 regulations in force at the time (October 9 and 10). She would like to keep costs down, and is not sure what insurance would be required. Fran said that since Friends of the Library is once again planning a boutique tea room at the fair, Friends of the Library might be able to contribute to insurance.

Zachary Dupre and Kelley Markham are working on bands, many of whom expressed interest in donating to fire victims.

h. CAN Committee—Dion Sorrell

Dion will be contacting local medical people about what sort of liability they would be willing to accept. This is more complicated than anticipated.

i. Grant Applications: SCE & Calif. Fire Foundation—Francesca Duff

Francesca has not received a response to either of these applications yet. Edison said no to generators, but Francesca concentrated on supplies useful to volunteers in emergencies like earthquakes: first aid kits, masks, etc.

III. Director Reports

a. President—Geoffrey Sarkissian

No report.

b. Vice President—Dion Sorrell

A Shakespeare event at the Modjeska House is planned for October. And a video of Annie Louie’s Modjeska fairy tale production will be entered in July’s Warsaw Film Festival.

c. Secretary—Scott Breeden

Scott felt that the Bond Fire Distribution Advisory Committee did a good job.

The minutes of the April meetings (3) were approved 4-0.

d. Treasurer—Francesca Duff

The Bond Fire account was closed out, leaving about \$17,000 for more erosion control supplies like wattles, if needed.

The May financial report was approved 4-0.

IV. New Business

None.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

***** The next ICL meeting will be held June 1, 2021 via live streaming *****